

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



Issue: 30-98

Released: 9/28/98 - 3:00 p.m.

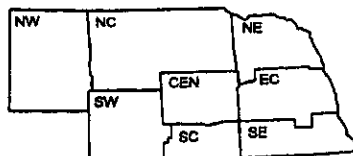
For Week Ending September 27, 1998

P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

Phone: (402) 437-5541
Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

Internet: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/index.htm>
e-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources-UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures near normal over Panhandle, but three to five degrees above normals elsewhere. Precipitation ranged from traces to over two inches in the Southeast.

GENERAL

Warm, windy conditions continued the rapid maturing and drydown of fall crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. With most crop acreage mature, the potential of frost damage is past. A killing frost would be welcome to eliminate green stems and weeds in soybeans, making harvest easier. Grain moisture levels continued to decline. In many cases, producers were minimizing drying costs, by allowing additional field drying to occur before combining. Wheat seeding was virtually complete in the Panhandle, while just getting underway in the Southeast. Soil moisture levels, while improved in the southeast, were getting very dry in other portions of central and southern Nebraska. Other producer activities included millet, potato and hay harvests, calf weaning and livestock care and requesting loan deficiency payments at local FSA offices.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 57% good, and 24% excellent. Dryland corn rated 79% in good or excellent condition and 83% of the irrigated corn rated in those categories. Corn mature was near complete at 92%, nearly two weeks ahead of a year earlier (62%) and average (61%). Corn harvested for grain advanced to 21%, well ahead of 4% last year and 5% average.

CROPS (cont.)

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 22% fair, 53% good, and 23% excellent. Nearly all the crop, 92%, was dropping leaves ahead of 87% last year and 70% average. Harvested at 14%, compared to 5% last year and 11% average. Foggy morning conditions slowed drydown and helped pods from becoming too dry. Green stems were making harvest slow.

Sorghum condition rated 1% poor, 13% fair, 67% good, and 19% excellent. Acreage considered mature, at 89% was well ahead of 65% last year and 51% average. Harvested for grain moved to 5% complete, compared to 2% last year and 4% average.

Dry bean harvest advanced to 73%, near 76% last year and 67% average.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 7% poor, 23% fair, 60% good and 9% excellent. Fourth cutting was 41% complete, compared to 39% last year and 42% average. Numerous dryland acres in the south didn't have enough regrowth to warrant a fourth cutting.

Winter Wheat seeding advanced to 80%, ahead of 70% last year and average. Emergence was slow at 46%, compared to 47% last year, but still ahead of 35% average. Dry soils continued to slow emergence, with spotty stands reported in portions of the south and west.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions declined with the extended dry conditions, and rated 6% very poor, 12% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, and 3% excellent. Supplemental feeding continued in portions of the south and west, as producers waited for stalk fields to open up.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF September 27, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Mature	53	85	88	99	98	72	99	99	92	83	62	61
% Corn Harvested	4	7	16	22	23	17	28	31	21	8	4	5
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	na	91	95	96	88	77	99	95	92	71	87	70
% Soybeans Harvested	na	8	7	19	19	16	35	15	14	4	5	11
% Sorghum Mature	na	81	100	80	96	77	84	91	89	51	65	51
% Sorghum Harvested	na	5	19	5	15	1	3	6	5	2	2	4
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	5	19	32	75	44	59	57	59	41	25 1/	39	42
% Dry Beans Harvested	74	62	60	7	na	71	na	na	73	55	76	67
% Wheat Planted	95	100	60	86	66	76	63	17	80	58	70	70
% Wheat Emerged	75	86	10	9	7	22	1	6	46	23	47	35
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF September 25, 1998												
Days suitable	4.9	6.4	5.9	7.0	5.9	6.2	6.8	3.1	5.8	6.7	2.8	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	8	4	4	2	32	41	0	10	11	4	
(Percent) - Short	31	49	61	63	47	29	25	2	40	53	15	
- Adequate	69	43	35	33	51	39	31	98	50	36	73	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	8	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	9	1	2	1	33	23	8	8	8	7	
(Percent) - Short	27	45	39	47	36	29	34	19	35	38	35	
- Adequate	73	46	60	51	63	38	43	73	57	54	56	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	

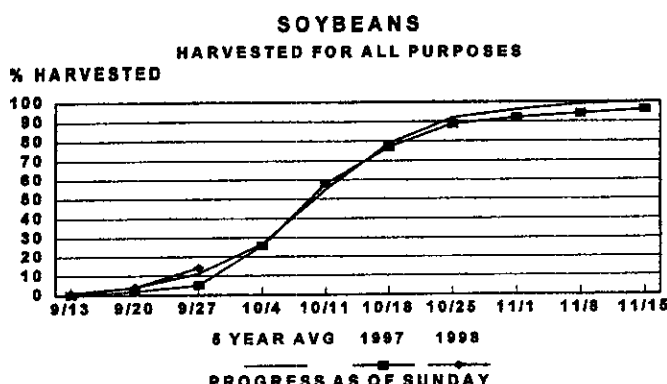
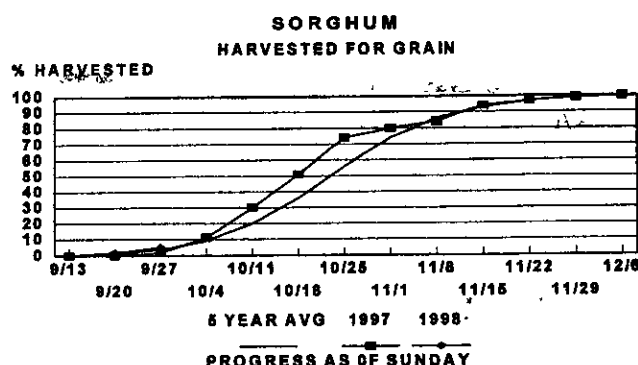
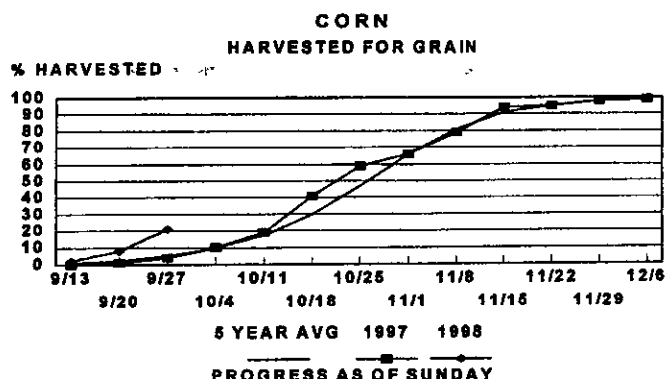
1/ Revised

Handwritten: 1200 9/28/98

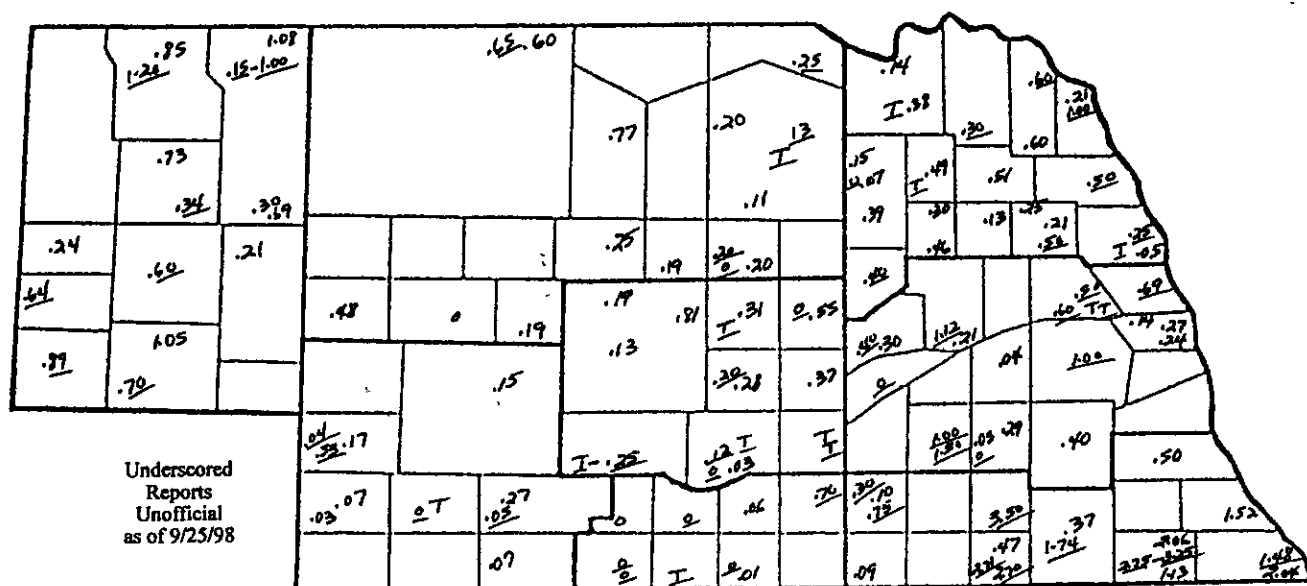
Periodical Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1998



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 26, 1998

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.64	30	29	30	.19	11	02	.92
Total since April 1	13.55	19.23	23.93	17.39	26.15	15.03	16.10	20.23
Normal since April 1	13.03	16.47	18.82	18.28	20.87	15.10	18.39	21.56
Total as % of normal	104%	117%	127%	95%	125%	100%	88%	94%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1998

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1998									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Since April 15	
		Max	Min					Current	Normal
NW	Chadron	90	45	59	—	85	—	—	—
	Scottsbluff	87	45	60	+1	24	—	—	—
	Sidney	—	—	—	—	—	72	2548	2549
NC	Valentine	86	41	59	+1	60	—	—	—
	Arthur	—	—	—	—	—	77	2655	2730
	O'Neill	—	—	—	—	—	84	2907	2881
NE	Norfolk	92	44	64	+4	30	—	—	—
	Sioux City	93	42	66	+5	21	—	—	—
	Concord	—	—	—	—	—	97	2954	2953
	Elgin	—	—	—	—	—	93	2973	2939
	West Point	—	—	—	—	—	101	3074	3135
CEN	Grand Island	100	47	66	+5	T	103	3105	2988
	Ord	88	45	64	—	.31	93	2995	2960
	Kearney	—	—	—	—	—	100	3074	2973
EC	Lincoln	93	45	66	+3	.40	114	3381	3269
	Omaha	94	46	66	+4	.27	—	—	—
	Central City	—	—	—	—	—	103	3082	3013
	Mead	—	—	—	—	—	116	3266	3243
SW	Imperial	92	43	64	—	.07	—	—	—
	North Platte	89	45	63	+4	15	91	2877	2798
	Curtis	—	—	—	—	—	108	3036	2847
SC	Holdrege	—	—	—	—	—	105	3075	2961
	Red Cloud	—	—	—	—	—	121	3474	3003
SE	Beatrice	—	—	—	—	—	113	3211	3269
	Clay Center	—	—	—	—	—	103	3145	3007

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.